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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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February 27, 1959

Downgraded To: SECRET

1 E.O. 11052: 2/23/60 C 4

August 4, 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

*Europa*

Yesterday afternoon in our meeting with the Secretary he reaffirmed his conviction that we are entering a test of nerve and will with the Soviets and that they can be expected to hold to their position right up until the last minute before giving way.

The Secretary also expressed a great interest in going ahead with the quiet moves of increased military preparedness in Europe along the lines he had discussed with General Norstad. Specifically he said that he was anxious to have atomic weapons moved into Germany as promptly as possible, believing that this would be picked up by Soviet intelligence but not by the general public.

*LTM*

Livingston T. Merchant

Orig. - Mr. Murphy through S/S *Murphy*

cc - Mr. Kohler, Mr. Hillenbrand, Mr. Timmons

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Authority NWD 887404

By *AK* NARA Date 1-8-10